

NEWS RELEASE

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Fourth of July Safety Fireworks Illegal in Ventura – Be a Good Neighbor

The aftermath of the Thomas Fire continues to impact many of our community members whose homes were lost or damaged during the incident. On holidays like the Fourth of July we encourage community members to be good neighbors especially to those who are continuing to recover from the disaster. Fireworks can pose great danger to persons and properties and are illegal in the City of Ventura.

In response to community concerns the Ventura City Council adopted a Fireworks Social Host ordinance. Under the new ordinance, any homeowner, renter, or person in charge of a residence or other private property who knows or should know of the sale, use, and/or possession of any fireworks on private property are subject to a civil penalty levied by the City of Ventura.

Community members are encouraged to take the following steps to help partner in making it a safe Fourth of July for all:

- Report firework disturbances to the Ventura Police Department's 24/7 non-emergency number at 805-650-8010. Please be prepared to provide detailed information of the firework activity including the address and suspect being reported.
- For emergencies please call 911.

To celebrate our nation's independence community members are encouraged to enjoy many of the approved and legal firework displays throughout Ventura County. In the City of Ventura, the <u>Ventura Rotary Club</u> will host a fireworks show and family picnic celebrating family, community and country on July 4 at Ventura College. Gates open at 5 pm.